



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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MEDIA REMINDER

PSC TO HOLD ON-THE-RECORD PRESENTATION IN AQUILA NATURAL GAS RATE CASE

Jefferson City (March 29, 2004)---The Missouri Public Service Commission will hold an on-the-record presentation starting at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, **March 30, 2004**, to receive additional information from various parties regarding a proposed agreement in a natural gas rate case filed by Aquila, Inc. d/b/a Aquila Networks-L&P and Aquila Networks-MPS.

The on-the-record presentation will be held in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, in Jefferson City. The Governor Office Building is a facility that meets accessibility standards required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. If a person requires additional accommodations to participate in the presentation, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or dial 711 for Relay Missouri prior to the hearing.

Under the proposed agreement, annual natural gas revenues would increase by approximately \$3.4 million for Aquila Networks-MPS (Northern and Southern System customers) and Aquila Networks-L&P customers. Under the terms of the agreement, Aquila agrees to fund, on an annual basis, approximately \$135,000 for various energy efficiency, weatherization and low income assistance programs. The agreement also calls for Aquila to not seek to place an infrastructure system replacement surcharge (ISRS) on customer bills prior to the effective date of Aquila's next natural gas general rate increase case.

When Aquila filed its natural gas rate case with the Public Service Commission, it sought to increase annual natural gas revenues by approximately \$6.4 million.

Aquila Networks-L&P serves approximately 6,000 natural gas customers in the former St. Joseph Light & Power service area. Aquila Networks-MPS serves approximately 46,000 natural gas customers in the former service area of Missouri Public Service. This rate increase does not impact Aquila Networks-MPS customers in its Eastern System (approximately 4,200 natural gas customers in the Rolla, Salem and Owensville area). Aquila is seeking Commission authority to transfer those natural gas assets to AmerenUE.

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